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The Campsfield Monitor

20 years too long!

Stop all immigration detention!



Another fire at Campsfield

On the evening of 18 October, fire broke out in the main Blue Block. Ten fire engines attended. Two detainees were taken to hospital, one in a serious condition. Local campaigners were able with the help of Corporate Watch to ensure good media coverage, including a mobile phone interview with a detainee who criticized Mitie guards for their conduct of the evacuation. This man was later beaten up by guards.

(<http://www.corporatewatch.org.uk/?lid=5080>) Over 100 detainees were moved to other centres and the block remains empty. Fire fighters reacted with outrage that the

Home Office had not followed their strong advice after a fire in 2007 to fit sprinklers. On the face of it, this certainly put at risk the lives of detainees in the Home Office's 'care'. After fires at Yarl's Wood and Harmondsworth, sprinklers were fitted. (See campaign statement inside.)

<https://soundcloud.com/#corporate-watch/campsfield-fire-detainee>

Arson charge for Farid Pardiaz

Farid Pardiaz, 24, charged with arson, appeared before Judge MJ Mowat at Oxford Crown Court on 8 November. The indictment stated that that Mr Pardiaz 'without lawful excuse damaged by fire

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Campsfield IRC ... and attempted to endanger the life of Farid Pardiaz.’ The judge quashed the indictment as nonsense: the Criminal Damage Act 1971 referred to intent to endanger the life of *another*.

The prosecution returned with a new indictment alleging Mr Pardiaz was reckless as to whether the life of another would be damaged by his action. Questioned by the judge, Mr Pardiaz said his brain didn’t work at the time, he didn’t know it would endanger another’s life but he knew it would endanger his own life. [‘It’ being, we understand, setting fire to furnishings in his room.]

It was 20 years ago today

25 November 1993: two minibuses bring the first detainees from Harmondsworth to Campsfield. Since, 25,000-30,000 innocent people – refugees and undocumented migrants – have been imprisoned in Campsfield for a day or two to months, even years, without charge, without judicial oversight or proper reason given, or time limit.

The judge suggested that if he was not aware of the risk he could not be reckless. Referring to the documents saying Mr Pardiaz was depressed, she asked if he was on medication. Mr Pardiaz said he had asked to see a doctor but this had not been allowed.

The judge refused to accept his plea of guilty and the case was adjourned till 15 November for Mr Pardiaz to have a ‘proper consultation with his lawyer’ (Hines) ‘with an interpreter present’.

As of early March 2014, after 4 court appearances, Mr Pardiaz still awaited trial.

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Detainee waving flag to demonstrators

Campaign statement following the fire

In the latest of a series of fires in UK immigration detention centres, two people from Campsfield House, at Kidlington, near Oxford have been hospitalised. This must call our attention, yet again, to the Home Office ‘duty of Care’ towards the people held in Immigration detention in this country. The Chief Fire Officers’ Association press release following the incident makes it clear that the Home Office has continued to ignore their recommendation to fit sprinklers in Campsfield, thus endangering the lives of all those inside

<http://www.cfoa.org.uk/16022>.

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IRCs are a high fire risk, not because of the nature of the people locked up, but because the doors are locked, the buildings are behind high fences, access is often inadequate and construction often poor. What kind of society puts people in its care knowingly in such danger?

We read, appalled, of loss of life and injury during fires in nightclubs, or the collapse of factories abroad, thinking this would not happen here – but this latest incident – and the ones before, at Campsfield, at Yarl's Wood and at Harmondsworth, are all similarly the result of 'cutting corners'.

Despite the lesson of Yarl's Wood, where fire spread because there were no sprinklers, and despite the advice of the CFOA in 2007 that they should be fitted at Campsfield, this was not done.

The people – migrants – who have endured these incidents have already, many of them, endured too much – persecution before they arrived in the UK, hardship – certainly – since their arrival, and the bewildering violence of being thrown into arbitrary detention.

It is long past time for the government to review their policy of immigration detention, and at the same time take their duty to care for the people they arbitrarily detain seriously.

As a first step, they should request a thorough inspection of all the detention estate by the Chief Fire Officers Association, and act on their recommendations immediately, before another disaster occurs.

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1994: Group 4/GSL; 2002: GEO; 2011: Mitie – millions of pounds profit made out of misery !

20 years' expansion of detention

When the first detainees were bussed in from Harmondsworth on 25 November 1993, Campsfield 'House' (then 180 places, now 216) was the first substantial purpose-built immigration detention accommodation in Britain. £21 million was spent on this 'state-of-the-art' revamp of a youth offender institution. The other centres were smaller: Haslar (180 places) was a former naval prison and Harmondsworth (c.100) not much more than some old huts.

Almost at once there were protests from inside Campsfield, letters to the centre manager, or immigration officials, or a minister, petitions signed by many detainees, some of the biggest mass hunger strikes in the country's history and the uprisings or riots of 1994 and 1997. The Campaign to Close Campsfield has helped to magnify these protests.

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Detention is one of the most extreme forms of state racism and discrimination on grounds of race. The Labour government excluded immigration matters from being covered by the Race Relations (Amendment) Act 2000.

The Conservatives increased the 'detention estate' from around 280 in early 1993 to 830-odd in 1997 (Tinsley 'House' 1993, 157 places incl children, Dungavel 2001, 217).



Oxford Migrant Solidarity phone number displayed for detainees to call for a visitor

After 1997, Labour copped that easily: some 1550 more places by 2003, well on the way to the government target of 4,000 (excluding immigration detainees in prisons proper). There were new mega centres: Europe's largest at Yarl's Wood (2001, 900, now after fire in 2002, 405) and Harmondsworth (2001, 615).

Campsfield 'House'
Immigration Removal Centre
near Kidlington, is 6 miles north of Oxford in Oxfordshire; holds up to 216 male detainees, and is run for profit by Mitie. It is one of 10 main detention centres in the UK, 7 of which are run by private companies.

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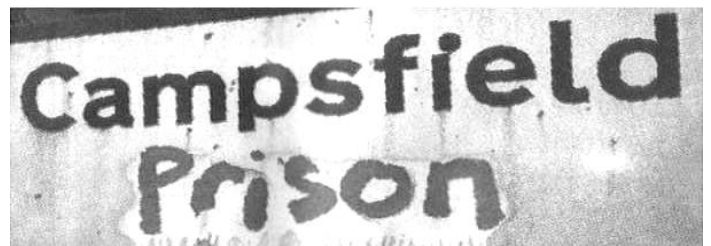
Campsfield: A 'House' indeed

And since 2003?

Colnbrook 2004, 308; Brook 'House' 2009, 426; Dover 2002, 314; 'Cedars' 2011, 44 incl children; Morton 'Hall' 2011, 392; Verne, Portland 2014, 580; plus short-term Larne 'House' 19, Pennine 'House' 32.

'As at February 2013 there are 3,408 places in detention (excluding prisons).' (Association of Visitors to Immigration Detainees, *In Touch*). Verne opening in early 2014 will bring that to over 4,000.

Other people, held under immigration law, but in prisons, number 500-1,000 at any one time (979 on 9 September 2013, answer to parliamentary question, House of Commons, 31 October 2013). So the number of immigration detainees already exceeds 4,000 most of the time.



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Bicester (800 places) dropped, Verne (580) goes ahead

The Coalition against the Bicester Immigration Removal Centre (Cabirc) was founded in 2008 after the Home Office announced plans to increase the number of immigration removal places by 60%, including an 800-place detention centre at Arncott near Bicester in Oxfordshire.

The campaign campaigned over five years, holding meetings, lobbying, leafleting homes in all nearby villages. Support came from Asylum Welcome, Close Campsfield, Refugee Resource, the Refugee Council and political parties and trades unions including the Oxford and District Trades Union Council, the Oxford District Labour Party, the Banbury Constituency Labour Party and the Oxfordshire Green Party.

Planning permission was approved in 2009 but in 2010 the new Coalition Government announced that the proposed centre near Bicester was unaffordable and 'there are no plans to commence construction at this time.'

In early 2013, the Home Office wrote: *'There are no current plans to develop the site as an IRC or other immigration facility and the site is currently, in principle, available for disposal.'*

A Cabirc spokesperson said, *'We see it as just another waste of public money. They have lined the pockets of private consultants at huge expense to the taxpayer [£1.7 million, said the government]. We are delighted it's not going ahead here. We continue to be against policies that detain people indefinitely.'* (Oxford Times, May 2013)

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But the same Home Office letter said: *'The Home Office remains actively looking to source additional and replacement detention spaces that complement our activities in suitably strategic locations.'*

Verne Prison, Portland Bill, Dorset, set to be a 580-place immigration detention centre, is no doubt one of these 'suitably strategic locations', sited for convenience for detainees's family and lawyer visitors.

As CABIRC said in its final meeting in September: *'While we can celebrate the success of the CABIRC campaign, we must make heard our voices in opposing an expansion of detention which includes an increase in the number of bed spaces available at Campsfield House. THE STRUGGLE CONTINUES!'*

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20 years of resistance

25.11.93 First immigration detainees brought from Harmondsworth detention centre. 12 demonstrators meet minibuses at Campsfield main gates and demand freedom for detainees.

Almost at once there were protests by those held inside Campsfield, and for 20 years there have been individual and collective protests by detainees including signed statements to the authorities, and mass hunger strikes.

17.12.93 Public meeting against Campsfield in Oxford Town Hall.

23.12.93 169 visitors from Jamaica (an entire plane-load, including an immigration officer) are detained on arrival. 40 are detained in Campsfield over Christmas.

10.01.94 Campaign to Close Campsfield launched with support from Oxford Trades Union Council, other union branches and church bodies.

29.01.94 First monthly demonstration. They continue thereafter at noon on last Saturday of every month –239 to date (30.11.13).

10.02.94 11 hunger strikers (mostly Algerian) in Campsfield moved to secure hospital in Yorkshire which is then picketed. Algerian Community Association join and organise demonstrations. All 11 granted temporary admission and released from detention.

11.03.94 175 detainees go on hunger strike. Sparks off wave of hunger strikes across Britain that includes about 400 detainees in total.

12.03.94 First rooftop protest in Campsfield with demonstration outside by Campaign.

13.03.94 Nine detainees from roof-protest moved to prisons. Hunger strikers

threatened with deportation. 40 incidents are recorded which break the World Medical Assembly Declaration of Malta (1991) on treatment of hunger strikers.

Last hunger striker stops after 41 days. 26.03.94 Demonstrators climb fence, reach roof and stay for 12 hours. Ali Tamarat, former detainee and hunger striker, speaks at demonstration and on TV. Two days later he is re-detained.

24.05.94 Detainee seen being deported handcuffed and mouth taped up. Already ill before her transfer, the doctor at Holloway prison refused her and she had to be taken to Whittington hospital.

25.05.94 Detainees extract promise from Immigration Service staff in Campsfield that there would be no more unannounced deportations.

4.06.94 600 people demonstrate outside Campsfield; human rights camp set up.

5.06.94 Mass revolt in Campsfield by detainees following deportation of Ali Tamarat without warning. 11 detainees escape. Many protest on rooftop. Riot police are sent in. 22 detainees moved to prison after protest. At least five detainees injured

9.07.94 Camp for human rights evicted from outside main gates of Campsfield (erected 04.06.94).

August letter from 86 Oxford academics to the Prime Minister: *'[These people] who are innocent of any crime, should not be detained. We certainly do not find it acceptable that they should be detained without trial, without time limit and with little chance of bail, and thus treated worse than common law criminals.'*

27.09.94 Hunger strike begins, is joined by all Ghanaians in Campsfield till 3.10.94.

25.11.94 Detainee is bound and gagged and deported to Ghana breaking the official ban

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on gags after the death of Joy Gardner in July 1993.

4.12.94 Petition of over 5,000 signatures calling for Campsfield to close handed in at 10 Downing Street by marchers from Oxford to London via Harmondsworth detention centre.

7.02.95 By hunger strike, Muslim and Christian detainees win request for halal food and change of meal times to allow Muslim detainees to observe Ramadan.

5.03.95 Ivorian Relief Action Group hold demonstrations outside Campsfield with Campaign and new group, Students Against Campsfield. Two detainees, Anne-Marie Sonan and Sita Kamara, are released after hunger strike.

20.04.95 Judge Tumin, chief inspector of prisons, report on Campsfield states average stay is 10 weeks and 10% of detainees are there more than six months.

26.05.95 Judge Tumin told that his contract will not be renewed by the Home Office.

30.05.95 Two detainees are deported despite having been on hunger strike for over 30 days and being too weak to walk. One hospitalised in India for several weeks.

5.02.96 Students Against Campsfield appear on TV national news with banner in Heathrow stating 'Britain starves refugees' on day benefits removed for in-country asylum applicants

25.05.96 Six detainees attempt to escape Campsfield but are caught and transferred to a prison.

13.07.96 The Campaign and Kurdish refugees perform a street play in Oxford to highlight detention in Campsfield (performed several times over next few months).

15.09.96 Trees outside Campsfield are cut down to prevent supporters and detainees

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from communicating.

21.05.97 Detainee moved to Winson Green prison because he complained of Group 4 staff watching pornographic videos in room adjoining prayer room during Ramadan.

22.05.97 12 detainees protest on roof for 36 hours against transferrals to prisons.

30.05.97 11 unaccompanied children detained in Campsfield until visitors and lawyers complained.

20.08.97 Detainees protest in Campsfield as they see a detainee being strangled as he is removed. Group 4 evacuate and riot police are brought in. 10 West Africans and two Caribbeans and one Lebanese are blamed for 'riot' and detained on remand. Charges against four are dropped, leaving nine. Of nine, three are minors. Two attempt suicide while in detention. Another two are granted refugee status and are given bail.

16.04.98 Sir David Ramsbotham, chief inspector of prisons, publishes report on Campsfield: 'it is abundantly clear' that 'there is little or no consistency, or logic, in current arrangements for deciding upon detention'.

17.06.98 All of the Campsfield Nine are acquitted when prosecution admits that their witnesses, Group 4 and Immigration staff, are 'unreliable' that security guards destroyed telephones and hit detainees. Four of the Nine are detained in Rochester prison.

22.06.98 70 detainees start mass hunger strike in Campsfield for one week demanding visit by immigration minister. Spokesperson for detainees victimized and moved to prison.

17.08.98 All Campsfield Nine are released from detention following concerted lobbying and another suicide attempt.

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Eight of the nine decide to sue the Home Office and Group 4 for malicious prosecution.

21.09.99 Two detainees injure themselves, one very seriously, trying to escape.

14.11.99 Twenty detainees protest on roof for having been detained for over one year.

27.11.99 300 people attend anniversary 'Six years too long' demonstration.

15.09.00 'Barbed Wire Europe' Conference Against Immigration Detention, in Ruskin College, Oxford organised by Campaign; 125 attend from 25 countries.

2001

Barbed Wire Britain anti detention network set up on initiative of Campaign.

March Manchester conference on rights of migrants organised by BWB, Committee to Defend Asylum Seekers and National Coalition of Anti Deportation Campaigns

Summer Three-week 'No Borders' camp at Campsfield in the summer of 2001 (in solidarity with other European No Borders Network camps)

July The Wombles plan a mass camp, advertising their intention to break down the fence, but are stopped by a huge police operation.

End 2001 Detainees react angrily to refusal of immigration officials to meet about grievances. A fire is started.

2002

7 February: 'I can also confirm that I intend to close Campsfield House. This outdated centre is no longer appropriate in the 21st century. These places will be transferred to the new high standard [sic] removal centres.' – David Blunkett, Home Secretary. Decision later reversed following fire at Yarl's Wood

Spring Government announces 4 open 750-bed 'accommodation centres' for migrants will be opened, one at Piddington,

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Bicester, Oxon. Campaign helps set up Bicester Refugee Support to oppose the plan on humanitarian grounds. Plan dropped after Public Inquiry at which BRS and Asylum Welcome give evidence, and at total cost of over £20 million.

Summer National demonstration for migrant rights in London organised by BWB, NCADC, CDAS (see March 2001)

September 2001 Mass hunger strike
2003

Chief Inspector of Prisons, Anne Owers, concludes Campsfield is not 'a place of safety'.

14 June 120 Detainees on hunger strike.

14 December 66 Campsfield detainees go on hunger strike.

November Unite general secretary Bill Morris addresses 10th anniversary demo; protests at oppressive policing.

2004

31 January 1st European Day of Action for Migrant Rights/Against Detention: demos at Campsfield, Waterloo station, Liverpool Hull, Bridgewater; *Daily Mail* picketed.

August Kidlington Parish Council votes down expansion of Campsfield.

2005

2 April 2nd European Day of Action; demos in UK cities.

27 June †RIP Ramazan Kimluca (18), Kurdish asylum seeker, hangs himself in Campsfield.

July Campsfield detainee sews lips together, swallows needle.

August Stream of complaints of assaults during removals.

2006

27 May Public meeting in Oxford Town Hall on detention as torture.

July, December Group hunger strikes.

2007

14 March Mass protest as detainees resist a

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deportation, nine hurt

25 July Whalley report predicts more disturbances (See *Report into Disturbances at Harmondsworth and Campsfield IRCs*, Robert Whalley, CB for House of Commons July 2007.)

7 August 26 escape Campsfield after fire, 9 remain free.

20 November GEO sack Campsfield chaplain Father Seraphim for speaking on radio. After several years, he receives an out of court settlement in recognition that he was wrongfully treated

17 December Major disturbance in protest at violent removal of Davis Osagi; fires, Blue Block closed, detainees moved to other centres, prisons

2008

14 June Detainees protest again, small fires set, 10 fire engines, 50 police officers, prison officers in riot gear and a police helicopter attend

18 June 7 detainees escape, 3 remain free

Also 2008, Oxford & District TUC statement 'Slave Labour at Campsfield': <http://www.closecampsfield.org.uk/oldindex.html>

9 August 13 Iraqi Kurds begin hunger strike. Spokesman Fazzel Abdul said:

'Without any reason we are being held here and they are trying to deport us to the most dangerous country in the world.'

11 August 50 other detainees join in protest. *'We are protested because we are human beings we are not criminal. We are locked in the cell like prisoners we want freedom and justice there are many of us who have family and we have been separated to live with our family.'*

2009

1 January A man from Congo Brazzaville in Campsfield slit his throat after being on hunger strike for 9 days. Some unrest in

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Campsfield following this.

May An Oxford resident for 13 years, health worker, and member of Unison Oxon Health Branch, seized and put in Campsfield.

According to the Annual Report of Campsfield's Independent Monitoring Board (IMB): Average duration of stay 44 days (excludes previous stays and stays in other centres), number of detainees paid for work doubled from 20 to 40 averaging around 5 hours daily.

November 100 people on 16th anniversary demo

2010

March Campsfield detainee attempts suicide, moved to JR hospital, to Campsfield, to Colnbrook, all in 48 hours.

April Demo outside Serco offices in Culham Science Park south of Oxford. 100 'Evict Serco – the race prison empire in your midst' leaflets distributed.

Cameroonian detainee held in 4 centres deported despite having a judicial review outstanding and despite complaint been registered with the police about being beaten up by members of the 7-strong 'escort' on previous failed deportation.

A very ill detainee dies in Oakington despite begging for drugs and treatment.

May Pilot refuses to fly with Cameroonian detainee when he sees treatment meted out by guards; detainee moved to hospital, to Haslar, and deported despite having judicial review outstanding.

June Detainees being given counselling as they leave unsuccessful video-link bail hearings, because experience too distressing.

August 147 detainees go on hunger strike over abuse, long detention and mental health problems. Detainees talk to media and issue statements and in phone and

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email contact with campaigners. Several demos/vigils in support at Campsfield and in town.

September Iraqi Kurds, Ahmed Hussein Saeed and Mohammed Abdullah, escaped, both picked up, one in London with a suspected broken leg and deep cuts sustained in the escape. Mr Saeed had been returned in April after Baghdad authorities refused to accept people on a mass deportation flight.

October 3 G4S guards arrested following death of Jimmy Mubenga. *12th*: Justice for Jimmy Mubenga demonstration, London. G4S later loses deportations contract.

2011

28 January Campaign calls for detainees to be paid minimum wage; *Guardian* reports women detainees at Yarl's Wood paid 50p an hour to work. *'It is a cruel irony that immigration detainees are being paid a pittance while asylum seekers in the community are not allowed to work.'*

(Campaign press statement)

March Launch of Bail Observation Project's *Immigration Bail Hearings: A Travesty of Justice? Observations from the Public Galley* at meetings in Oxford Town Hall and Parliament.

6 June 37 Kurds and Iraqis go on hunger strike to protest at mass deportation.

Campaign mounts two demonstrations, and issues statements in support

30 July Abiola Ayabola complaint about judge at immigration bail hearing (see website)

2 August †RIP Ianos Dragutan, 31, from Moldova hanged himself in a shower at Campsfield. Vigil at Carfax.

14 Justice for Jimmy Mubenga vigil outside Director of Public Prosecutions office: still no charges against G4S a year later.

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2012

Groups from STAR and Freshers-Fair sign-ups join to form Oxford Migrant Support. Oxford NoBorders distribute leaflets outside Barnardo's shop in Cowley Road to protest at their involvement in 'Cedars' detention centre for children.

May Start of hunger strike by Sudanese, mostly Darfuris, in Campsfield. Most get released, but 2 continue long hunger strike.

See 'Campaign Diary 2012-2013', p. 12.

A former detainee speaks

Hey, its Allan, a living witness who spent 9 months in Campsfield! yes hard, distressing and inhuman, thanks guys for the great work towards humanity, and believing that people like me have a chance in life, thanks for the fight, thanks for the awareness, the visits, trust me, its not in vain, much appreciated. Back to the awareness prospect, have you ever considered going to congregations like in churches, city council meetings, lets remember our politicians do paint a dark picture towards immigrants, just a vote seeking tool, and thats the news they sell to voters, but you guys know the other side of the coin, that we are human, family people and enterly individuals running away from our home governments who want us dead, we are law abiding people who come here to seek protection and try and live amongst as citizens, am luck i have friends like you guys, you make my life worth living, but many more of our brothers and sisters still go through the brutal UKBA numbers system. please keep the struggle going, our arms are still tied but we watch from the back ground, and fell free to ask me as many questions, for i was there in hell, i know

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The current Immigration Bill

Theresa May has promised a 'hostile environment' for 'people here illegally'.

As well as provisions obliging private landlords and bank staff to be spies for the UK BA, the Bill abolishes the right to appeal against government immigration decisions (latest figures show that up to 50% of appeals against Home Office decisions are supported by judges of the independent appeal authorities). The Bill would effectively abolish the right to apply for bail before 28 days since a previous application.

The FreeMovement website has useful blogs on the Bill:
<http://www.freemovement.org.uk/>

Child locked up in Campsfield for two months

A boy was locked up for months in Campsfield in early 2013, according to official data. The revelation dramatically exposes the falsity of government claims that the harmful practice of detaining children for administrative convenience has ended.

The Home Office does not reveal the boy's exact age or the precise length of his incarceration, only that he was aged 12 to 16, and held for between two and three months at Campsfield House, an adult immigration jail near Oxford. ...

In all 37 children were locked up for immigration purposes in the first three months of 2013. The Home Office concedes that the number would have been

still higher, but Tinsley House removal centre, near Gatwick, was closed to new detainees for most of the period due to an outbreak of infectious illness.

'Since the start of 2011, the overall trend for children entering detention has risen,' said the Home Office.

Yet the government maintains the fiction that it has ended child detention as it promised to do in the Coalition Agreement of May 2010. 'We will end child detention for immigration purposes,' they said then.

In December 2010 deputy prime minister Nick Clegg announced the immediate closure of the family unit at the notorious Yarl's Wood detention centre in Bedfordshire. He promised child detention would 'end completely' by May 2011.

The Liberal Democrat leader spoke movingly of children 'locked up, sometimes for weeks, sometimes for months, in one case for 190 days – something no innocent child should ever have to endure'. Clegg's rhetoric of compassion gave his party a much needed 'win' in a pre-Christmas period rocked by student protest and accusations of betrayal.

But child detention did not end. Instead it was rebranded as "family friendly pre-departure accommodation". Or PDA for short. The government opened a new detention facility in August 2011, in the Sussex village of Pease Pottage. They called it Cedars [it has a cedar behind the fence)], and said it was an acronym for 'Compassion, Empathy, Dignity, Approachability, Respect and Support'.

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The first report on Cedars by the Prisons Inspectorate, in October last year, revealed that staff had used ‘substantial force’ against a pregnant woman causing ‘significant risk of injury to her unborn child’. Children and their parents had been forcefully restrained. One mother had been grabbed by her hair. More than half of the families held been arrested in dawn raids repeatedly criticised over years as unnecessarily distressing.

Both Cedars and Tinsley House, the facility near Gatwick airport where a 10 year old girl tried to strangle herself in 2009, are run by the security company G4S. That company faced an inquest [see separate article] over the death of another detainee, Jimmy Mubenga. Charity outsourcer Barnardo’s works in partnership with G4S at Cedars [and is much criticised for doing so].

Since December 2010 child detention has been recorded in every quarter. The numbers of children detained are far lower than under Labour when they peaked at perhaps 2000 annually, but higher than might have been inferred from Clegg’s forecast of ‘.

Remarkably, Clegg continues to take credit for ending child detention even though it demonstrably goes on. ‘It’s because of us that children are no longer detained for immigration purposes,’ he claimed this past March. This was one of his ‘proudest achievements in government’.

(from OurKingdom, 12 June 2013)

End Child Detention Now:

<http://ecdn.org/2013/06/>

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The percentage of children removed from the UK on leaving detention has risen from 41% in 2010 to 48% in 2012 and 63% in the first quarter of 2013.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/immigration-statistics-january-to-march-2013/>



Campaign diary 2012-13

Demonstration and public meeting every month; stalls at Oxfam One World, Green, Faringdon Peace, and University freshers’ fairs, Oxford May Day, Burford Levellers’ Day.

2012

25 November 100 at anniversary rally with Breach of the Peace samba band, speakers former detainee Toomaj Karimi, Shiar from CorporateWatch, John McDonnell MP

December Twenty uni students visiting 18 detainees via Oxford Migrant Solidarity

2013

1 February Campaign speaker at first of the Immigration Detention Seminar Series, ‘Supporting Detainees’*

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20 February Afghan child released after 2 months detained in Campsfield
March Rule 35 reports being taken up by Campaign
9 April Oxford launch of 2nd Bail Observation Project report *Still a Travesty*.
11 May Workshop in Oxford with NCADC about their new *Toolkit*
14 May London launch of 2nd Bail Observation Project report *Still a Travesty*.
July As Mitie shareholders, two campaign supporters attend its AGM
August UK BA white 'enforcement' vans in Oxford, raid on KFC, in September on Indian restaurants in Witney
25 August At monthly demo, 10 detainees contact the Oxford Migrant Support mobile phone number shown each month on the banner
9-10 October Over 100 sign up at CCC/OMS stall at Oxford Uni freshers fair
18 October Fire at Campsfield
26 October Monthly demo with 50 people including coach from Warwick University STAR and Amnesty groups, and Coventry Peace House
8 November First appearance of Farid Pardiaz at Oxford Crown Court
14 November Campaign represented at European Platform for International Cooperation on Undocumented Migrants meeting on detention of children
16 November One World Fair stall
29-30 November, 1 December Events to mark 20 years of resistance to immigration detention at Campsfield

* Website of the Economic and Social Research Council funded Seminar Series entitled 'Exploring Everyday Practice and Resistance in Immigration Detention':
<http://immigration-detention-seminar-series.org/>

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Rooftop protest at Campsfield, 12 March 1994

MITIE shareholder's report

Campsfield has been managed, on a contract from the UKBA/HO, by a 'plant management and security' company named MITIE since May 2011.

MITIE describes itself as 'The strategic Outsourcing and Asset Management Company'. It runs every aspect of premises management for the Houses of Parliament, for railway canteens in South Wales, the court in Bedford (and door security in Oxford Crown Court) for example. It has a payroll of over 70,000, many on the basic wage. Campsfield staff are said to be salaried. It is a company quoted on the FTSE 250.

Two members of ECCR (a UK churches corporate responsibility movement) who live in Oxford have become MITIE shareholders (five shares a piece) and have attended the last three AGMs held in July. At this year's gathering we raised for the

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second time the question of the Living rather than the Minimum Wage and were told that bids for contracts quoted each, so that it was up to the contracting institution [the Home Office] to choose which to accept. We also elicited the information that Campsfield staff are 'salaried,' the meaning of which we are still trying to discover.

However, the chief purpose of being there is to bring into the open everything that affects the lives of the detainees, as gleaned from the various groups in Oxford who have contact with them. So at this year's AGM one of us spoke about the minor who had been detained at Campsfield from 22 December to the 22 February before his claimed age was upheld. The child arrived from Lincolnshire Social Services via UKBA. Without a good lawyer he would never have succeeded. Other key matters concerned :

The state of medical records, still not computerised and therefore leading to bad outcomes, as detainees are moved within the 'Detention Estate' or finally deported or released.

The thoroughness of the health assessment when a detainee is admitted, not only in regard to Rule 35 (on evidence of torture) but in general. At such a moment the language issue is vital. It is reported that the telephone translation service 'Big Word' is not satisfactory.

Detainee/Staff relations, and the training and oversight that staff receive, following a number of negative statements by detainees.

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To these and other points we received a comprehensive response from Danny Spencer, operations director of MITIE Justice Ltd, responsible to Colin Dobell, the boss of Care and Custody. Paul Morrison, the centre manager at Campsfield reports to them. We talked with all of them after the meeting.

MITIE know that we are totally opposed to detention as a government policy. That is not the argument we can have with them; it is for the politicians. But we shall continue to publicise what is MITIE's responsibility and continue the dialogue. After the fire, surveyance of the company is crucial. We have already questioned them as to why they accepted the Home Office refusal to fit a sprinkler system, as requested by the Fire Service previously. We await their reply.

Jimmy Mubenga: still waiting for justice

A jury has returned a verdict of unlawful killing in the inquest into the death of Jimmy Mubenga, a healthy 46 year old Angolan man, who died on 12 October 2010 following face-forward restraint in his seat by three G4S security guards on a British Airways flight from Heathrow airport to Angola.

The jury ruled that Jimmy Mubenga ... was pushed or held down by one or more of the guards causing his breathing to be impeded. 'We find they were using unreasonable force and acting in an unlawful manner.

'The fact that Mr Mubenga was pushed or

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held down, or a combination of the two, was a significant, that is, more than a minimal cause of death. The guards we believe would have known that they would have caused Mr Mubenga harm in their actions if not serious harm.'



Adrienne Makenda Kambana, Jimmy Mubenga's widow said: 'I want to thank the jury who have helped me get closer to justice for Jimmy which will only be fully achieved when I can tell my children that those responsible have been properly held to account and no other family suffers in the way we are.'

G4S was paid by the hour. A failed removal had a direct impact on profits. (from report by the organisation Inquest, 9 July 2013)

*Still no charges against G4S and their guards! Demonstrate outside the Crown Prosecution Service
6 December 2013, 11-1pm*

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*CPS, Rose Court, 2 Southwark Bridge,
London SE1 9HS
Organised by United Families & Friends
Campaign (UFFC) and Stop G4S.*

Group 4 falsifying more documents

A high court judge has found that 3 employees of G4S, which runs Brook House immigration removal centre in Gatwick, have been involved in forging documents and contempt of court after giving witness statements during an immigration appeal involving allegations of torture at the hands of a foreign government.

<http://www.theguardian.com/business/2013/nov/10/g4s-officials-accused-forgery>

The issue has been referred to the Director of Public Prosecutions and the Attorney General, who will hopefully show more integrity than they have in the Jimmy Mubenga Case

[<http://www.theguardian.com/uk/2012/jul/17/jimmy-mubenga-death-fresh-questions>]
and decide to prosecute G4S and the employees involved.



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It is not acceptable that the state can get away with having its dirty work carried out, for a profit, by private sector corporations who think that they can disregard fundamental human rights and the rule of law with impunity.

As the high court judge said in his judgment:

[<http://www.bailii.org/ew/cases/EWHC/Admin/2013/3453.html>]

‘The conduct of the Secretary of State’s agents in falsifying the room clearance certificate is corrupt and truly shocking. When agents of the state falsify documents it undermines, if not fatally, then certainly very seriously, the trust of the people in the operation of the rule of law. It makes no difference if, as here, the agents are private contractors to whom the Secretary of State has outsourced her powers. Corruption by state officials is insidious and corrosive and it is the duty of the authorities where it is found to root it out ruthlessly. In judicial review proceedings, where the evidence is almost invariably given on paper and not subject to cross examination (unlike this case), it is especially important that deterrent measures are taken where such conduct is exposed.’

This follows the news we got a few weeks ago that the detainees who spoke out to the media, about the failings of Mitie guards at Campsfield during the recent fire, were beaten up by officers in riot gear. From: <http://www.corporatewatch.org/?lid=5080>

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Detention costs – It’s magic!

It seems to be getting cheaper and cheaper. Figures given in answers to parliamentary questions (costs per person)

On 14/1/2009: £130 a day [£47,450 a year]

On 10/2/2010: £120 a day [£43,800 a year]

On 26/4/2011: £110 a day [£40,150 a year]

On 31/10/2013: [£102 a day] £37,230 year

House of Commons, 31 October 2013

Sarah Teather asked what estimate has been made of the cost of detaining an individual in an immigration detention centre for one year.

Mark Harper replied that the ‘estimated average’ direct annual cost for 2013-14 is £37,230 [£102 a day].

House of Lords, 4 February 2010

Baroness Warsi: To ask Her Majesty's Government how much on average it costs per day to hold an individual in an immigration detention centre.

Lord West of Spithead: The current average cost per bed at night in the UK Border Agency’s detention estate is £120. This includes the operating contract costs, but also the budget for detention services, the part of the agency responsible for overseeing the estate, to provide direct services to detainees.

Clearly, if costs such as ‘escort’ vans, bail courts, lost economic activity and taxes are included, the financial costs are *much* higher. A subject for research perhaps.

Home Office ignores 90%+ of doctors' Rule 35 recommendations that individual detainees be freed

Rule 35 of the Detention Centre Rules 2001 lays out certain requirements:

- 1) The medical practitioner shall report to the manager on the case of any detained person whose health is likely to be injuriously affected by continued detention or any conditions of detention;*
- 2) The medical practitioner shall report to the manager on the case of any detained person he suspects of having suicidal intentions, and the detained person shall be placed under special observation for so long as those suspicions remain, and a record of his treatment and condition shall be kept throughout that time in a manner to be determined by the Secretary of State;*
- 3) The medical practitioner shall report to the manager on the case of any detained person who he is concerned may have been the victim of torture.*

Section 55.10 of the Enforcement Instructions and Guidance lists groups of people who are considered suitable for detention only in very exceptional circumstances. This list includes those with independent evidence of torture and those with a medical condition which cannot be satisfactorily treated in detention.

Section 55.8A of the Enforcement Instructions and Guidance states: 'The purpose of Rule 35 is to ensure that particularly vulnerable detainees are

brought to the attention of those with direct responsibility for authorising, maintaining and reviewing detention. The information contained in the report needs to be considered in deciding whether continued detention is appropriate in each case.'

Parliamentary question about Rule 35 Reports

House of Commons, 24 January 2013:

Bridget Phillipson

- 1) How many detainees a) were and b) were not released from detention following submission of a report to UK Border Agency under Rule 35 of the Detention Centre Rules 2001 in each year for which figures are available;*
- 2) How many reports have legal and healthcare teams submitted to UK Border Agency under Rule 35 of the Detention Centre Rules 2001 in each year for which figures are available.*

Mr Harper (secretary of state, Home Office): Reports made under Rule 35 of the Detention Centre Rules 2001 may be made only by the medical practitioners at immigration removal centres. Management information for the administration of reports submitted under Rule 35 of the Detention Centre Rules 2001 is available for the period 1 January 2012 to 30 September 2012. This information does not form part of published statistics and is not subject to the detailed checks that apply for National Statistics publications. It is provisional and subject to change. Records prior to this period were locally held manual records for administrative purposes and are not available.

There were 983 Rule 35 reports in the first 9 months of 2012: Detention Maintained 909 v. Detainee Released 74.

The figures speak for themselves. Not mentioned is the large number of detainees for whom a report is never made for a range of reasons. For torture victims, it is well known that they are reticent in claiming to have been tortured, or if they do, they are frequently not believed. Evidence is denied or can be difficult to prove.



Definition of torture

House of Lords, 29 August 2013

Lord Avebury asked whether the Home Office has suspended its plans to introduce the United Nations Convention Against Torture's definition of torture into its Enforcement Instructions and Guidance (EIG) and the instructions on Rule 35 (which prohibits the detention of victims of torture.)

Lord Taylor of Holbeach, Whip, House of Lords (Conservative) confirmed that the Home Office will not introduce the UNCAT definition to its EIG and will remove it from instructions on Rule 35. This means that case workers and doctors working in IRCs will be referred to the broader definition of torture set out by Mr Justice Burnett in the case of EO. This holds that torture is 'any act by which severe pain or suffering, whether physical or mental, is intentionally inflicted on a person for such purposes as obtaining from him or a third person information or

a confession, punishing him for an act he or a third person has committed, or intimidating or coercing him or a third person, or for any reason based upon discrimination of any kind'. [Again, this is broader than the UN definition – Monitor]

Deportation of minors to Afghanistan: Report from Kabul

Note: Foreign troops will have withdrawn from Afghanistan by the end of 2014 and it is anticipated that the situation will be a lot worse than at present.

The European Return Platform for Unaccompanied Minors (ERPUM) is an initiative for direct cooperation between a number of EU member states (the Netherlands, Norway, Sweden and the UK) with third country authorities in the practical work involved in returning unaccompanied minors to their parents/guardians or other forms of organised reception in the country of origin.

The European Union Return Directive (2008/115/EC) requires that, before deciding to issue a return decision in respect of an unaccompanied minor, he/she must be granted assistance by appropriate bodies other than the authorities enforcing return, and must be satisfied that he or she will be returned to a member of his or her family, a nominated guardian or adequate reception facilities in the country of return.

For the moment, Afghanistan, country of origin of most unaccompanied minors (UAMs) in the EU, is the preferred host for

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the pilot project. The project is an attempt to create adequate reception facilities in Kabul, on the assumption that family members will come forward to claim the minors once they are back in country.

Given the sharp increase in both civilian deaths and people leaving Afghanistan, the statements from EU Commissioner Malmstrom, that the best interests of the child must always be a primary consideration when deciding on a return, and that the principle of non-refoulement must always be respected ring a little hollow.

However, although the project has been on the table for at least two years, little progress has been made to date, although this is entirely due to a lack of commitment to the project on the Afghan side for a variety of reasons.

There are three Afghan ministries involved in these discussions: Foreign Affairs (MoFA), Labour and Social Affairs (MoSLA), and, weakest and least resourced, Refugees and Repatriation (MoRR). The latter was first approached by ERPUM and the Minister signed the MoU (memorandum of understanding), but since then has wavered on whether to implement it or not.

The main stumbling block appears to be how much of the budget assigned to the project the Ministry can keep. Presumably under pressure directly or indirectly from ERPUM, the MoFA stepped in and examined the (MoU), only to conclude (together with others in MoRR) that it breached the Convention on the Rights of the Child.

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However, in spite of all the concerns, MoFA also concluded that since the MoU had been signed, there was a duty to implement it.

Corruption in Afghanistan is legendary and the MoRR is no exception. In March this year, a Monitoring and Evaluation Committee Report heavily criticized UNHCR for the large sums of money that had disappeared into MoRR pockets. The UNHCR country director was replaced, but there was little resonance in Afghanistan.

At the beginning of September, the Afghan daily *8am* published lists of the sizeable cheques paid to the minister and members of his family. However, in the run-up to the election, even though national television stations picked up the story, it was the clean *deputy* minister who was fired. It seems unlikely the project will be able to go ahead in the run-up to next April's election. And the proposed site at Jangalak is in the ministry's backyard, making it difficult to do what international NGOs have traditionally done – completely bypass the authorities.

BUT the number of young unaccompanied Afghan minors arriving in Europe is likely to increase sharply in the next 12 months, no doubt making those member states even more determined to repatriate as many as possible after the election.

On 9 November 2013 returned deportees protested outside the national parliament building in Kabul against deportation charter flights from Europe and Australia to Afghanistan.

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The CorporateWatch report: *'Collective Expulsion: The case against Britain's mass deportation charter flights'* was launched on 20 November

<http://www.corporatewatch.org.uk/>

'Still a Travesty: Justice in Immigration Bail Hearings'

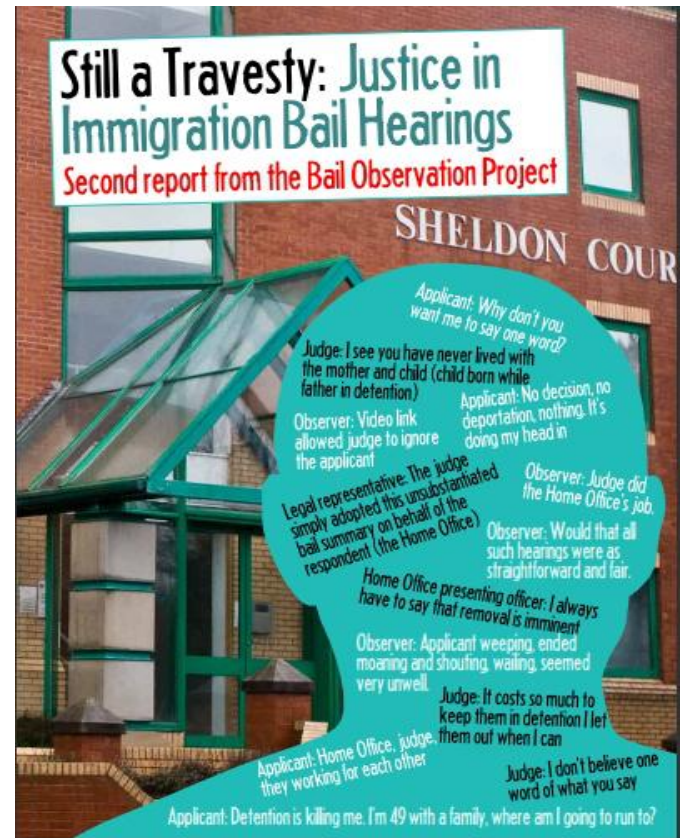
This second report from the Bail Observation Project, established in 2010 by the Campsfield campaign in response to concerns about the immigration bail process, was published earlier in 2013. The first report, *Immigration Bail Hearings: A Travesty of Justice? Observations from the Public Gallery*, was published in 2011. Since then new guidance has been issued for immigration judges. It therefore seemed timely to undertake a second systematic study of immigration bail hearings, in particular to examine to what extent the new *Guidance* was being followed, and with what results for those held in detention. As in the previous study, this is the work of volunteer lay observers.

Between February and August 2012, 23 volunteers carried out observations of 212 immigration bail hearings for 220 applicants in four different courts, under 44 different judges. Bail was granted in 76 cases, refused in 96 and 49 applications were withdrawn.

There was substantial variation in the conduct of the hearings and a disturbing lack of consistency in approach and process. There was much disparity between judges. A standard was set by those who maintained their independence, treated all the parties in court with respect and ensured that the process was understood,

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that interpreting was appropriate and comprehensive and who actively guided those applicants who had no legal representative. However, this was not a common standard. In many instances, the judge did not seem to act independently, but accepted the Home Office case as outlined in the bail summary without question, did not give adequate time for interpreting or help those applicants without legal representation. Some judges were described by observers variously as *hectoring* or even *ranting and rude*.



New guidance for First-Tier Tribunal Judges was published in July 2011 and revised in June 2012 but we found little evidence that issues addressed by the *Guidance*, such as length of detention, were being taken into account. Detainees had been held for periods ranging from a few days to more than two years. Every

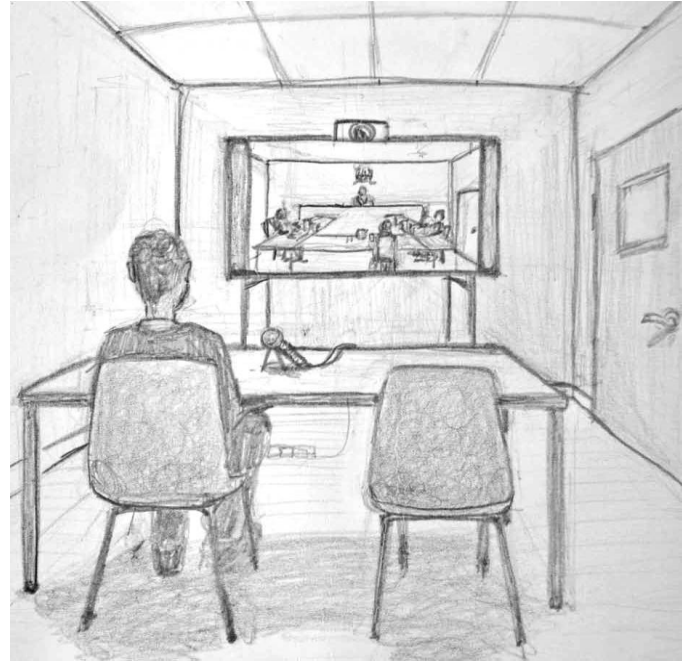
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detainee faces uncertainty and stress, as detention has no fixed time limit.

One significant change since our last study is that hearings by video link have now become standard and out of 212 hearings observed, 168 were by video link. In favour of the process is that video link hearings are cost effective. However, not only is it stressful for detainees, but the figures suggest that it may be an obstacle to a fair hearing. Bail was granted to 21 out of 41 applicants appearing in person, but of 170 video link hearings only 53 applicants were granted bail.

The video link process distances the applicant from the court; the camera angle means it may not be possible for the detainee to see all the parties such as the sureties when present, and family in the public seats. Sometimes it seemed that the judge could not see the detainee well. All too frequently there were technical problems with poor sound, inadequate lighting or mechanical breakdown. There is a particular difficulty when interpreting is needed. Since our last report, interpreting services have been outsourced. A third (92) of applicants required an interpreter, and of these over a third (33) experienced difficulties which ranged from the wrong language or dialect to failure of the interpreters to turn up.

We concluded that there has been little substantive change since the report of our first study was published in 2011: there is still a lack of consistency in every aspect of the hearing process including the approach of different judges, treatment of sureties, and procedures when there was a lack of legal representation.



However, we feel that our public presence in the courts has been noted and was welcomed by the families and friends of the applicants and by their sureties, and by some judges. In this wider sample we have found some cases of good practice which could set a benchmark. There is a great need for monitoring and accountability, and for public scrutiny, if justice is to be done and also seen to be done.

The report concludes by making a number of recommendations under the headings:

- Automatic judicial oversight of the decision to detain
- Independence of immigration judges
- Legal representation
- Appeal
- Adjournment
- Conduct of hearings
- Bail summary
- Video link hearings
- Accountability, scrutiny, monitoring
- Guidelines and training for immigration judges
- Public scrutiny of bail hearings

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There were two launch meetings, hosted by the Refugee Studies Centre in Oxford and at the House of Commons by Andrew Smith MP.

Of the 2,000 copies printed, we have distributed about 1,300 as of November 2013, to law firms and university departments with an interest in immigration law and human rights, immigration judges, selected members of Parliament (both houses), and many individuals. The report has been publicized at many events from the Levellers in Burford to PICUM in Brussels.

Since our first report we have been invited to attend Immigration Tribunal 'Stakeholder' meetings run by the Asylum and Immigration Tribunal twice a year. We participated recently in a one-day workshop on bail. Its purpose was to improve the process of immigration bail. Judges and Home Office personnel were present, and representatives from the Law Society, Bail for Immigration Detainees and Immigration Law Practitioners Association.

Two changes *have* been made, in line with our recommendations. First, judges' Reasons for Refusal in England and Wales are now typewritten (since July 2013). Second, we understand the practice of making an audio recording of bail hearings, as done at Taylor House in London, is to be extended to all hearing centres. It is salutary to recall that we had been told, when we first pressed for these changes, that they were not possible.

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Campsfield, 14 March 2007 Detainees protest after guards in riot gear remove an elderly Algerian man in the middle of the night.

The Campaign to Close Campsfield

The campaign was established in 1993 in opposition to the detention centre of that name opened near Oxford that year.

Its aims are:

- 'Stop immigration detentions and imprisonment;
- Close Campsfield, other detention centres, and prison detention wings;
- Stop racist deportations;
- Repeal immigration laws which reinforce racism.'

Put simply, the rationale for the campaign is that it is wrong to lock up people who have not been convicted of a crime (or who have completed a prison sentence following conviction for a crime).

The problem is compounded by the lack of time limit and proper judicial oversight. Current law provides for the administrative detention of migrants. So, on the narrow basis of opposition to arbitrary detention of migrants, a primary aim is Repeal of the

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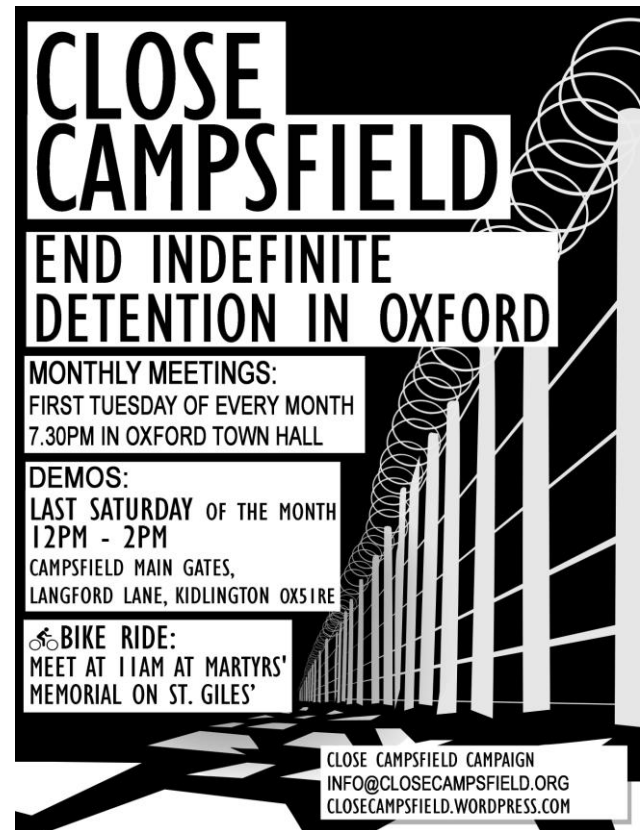
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1971 Immigration Act Section 11.1 and Schedule II, which provide for detention of migrants.

Since 1993 the campaign has played a leading role in the movement against immigration detention. It has:

- organised monthly demonstrations at Campsfield and monthly campaign meetings in Oxford;
- worked closely with detainees protesting at their detention;
- worked closely with local trade union, student and human rights organisations
- Supported anti-detention campaigning in other parts of the UK
- worked nationally with other bodies and helped set up the Barbed Wire Britain anti detention network and more recently the Detention Forum
- helped establish the Campsfield Nine, Yarl's Wood 13 and Hamondsworth Four defence campaigns in the show trials of protesting detainees
- published the bulletin *Campsfield Monitor*
- organised a conference on immigration detention in Europe attended in 2000 by over 120 people from over 20 countries;
- helped establish the Migreurop network and initiate the European Days of Action against detention and deportation, and supported actions and meetings for migrants rights in other countries, NoBorders camps etc.
- submitted evidence about the harmful effects and injustice of immigration detention to national and international parliamentary, European, and human rights bodies/organizations.

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Financial support is from individuals and small affiliation fees. Grants have assisted publication of this report and the organisation of the European conference in 2000.

Come join the campaign:

* Campaign meetings, 7.30 pm on the first Tuesday of every month, Oxford Town Hall, St Aldates.

* Demonstrations at Campsfield, 12-2pm on the last Saturday each month.

Membership is £10 waged, £5 unwaged, groups £30

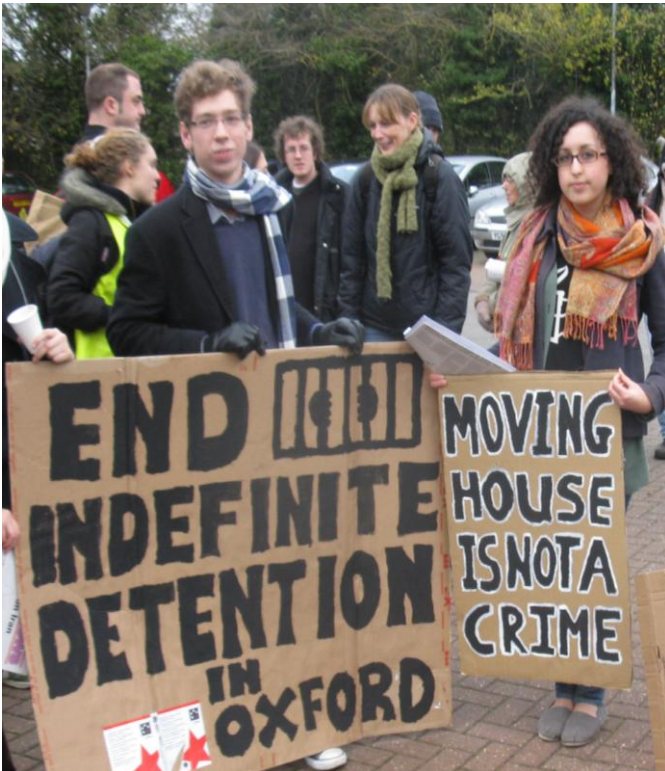
Send name, address, email address and say if you want monthly mailings by post or email.

Please send cheques made out to 'Campaign to Close Down Campsfield' to: CCC Treasurer, 17c West End, Witney, Oxon OX28 1NQ

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Oxford Migrant Solidarity (OMS)

We are a diverse and welcoming group of students and non-students, which focuses on visiting and offering solidarity and personal support to people in Campsfield House IRC. We are self-funded and horizontally organized. By forming wonderful friendships in the process, both inside and outside of Campsfield, we show that solidarity knows no borders, passports, or different languages and cultures.



This past year, members of OMS have been visiting a number of people in immigration detention in Campsfield. The relationships with the people that we have visited have often continued after release or deportation. Members of OMS have met up with friends formerly in Campsfield in countries such as Germany and Romania over the summer and have attended court hearings in the UK.

There has also been a regular and vocal OMS presence at the monthly demonstrations against the existence of Campsfield and the treatment of those detained there.

In the coming year, we hope to continue showing our solidarity with those detained in Campsfield through visits and working together with individuals and groups who share our principles in order to try to secure justice and freedom for migrants in Oxfordshire and beyond.

Contact: oms@riseup.net

BID – Bail for Immigration Detainees (BID)

BID was set up in 1998 to provide a dedicated and free bail service to detained asylum seekers and migrants. It is a registered charity and receives funds from donations, charitable trusts etc. There is no government funding.

BID Oxford

BID Oxford opened in 2001 to work locally with immigration detainees at Campsfield and Bullingdon Prison (both in Oxon.). We still focus on Campsfield IRC (216 places) but as the detention estate has expanded we have grown and now also cover Brook House, near Gatwick (400 places) and some people in Morton Hall in Lincolnshire, which opened last year, as well as our clients who have been moved about.

Our prime function is to get people out of immigration detention.

- 1) Preparing and arranging bail hearings in court with pro bono barristers.
- 2) Making written applications for

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Temporary Admission to the Chief Immigration Officer.

3) Helping detainees run their own bail hearings, where they represent themselves. Shortage of pro bono barristers has created the need for this, and the numbers requesting help.

BID's *Notebook on Bail: how to get out of detention* helps detainees cope with representing themselves. This is available in libraries at most centres.



Solidarity with Darfuri hunger strikers in Campsfield, Carfax, Oxford, May 2012

Detention Forum

This has been in existence since 2007. In October 2012, 30 campaigning, church and voluntary organizations put their weight behind a three-pronged approach to challenge the government's policy and practice in immigration detention, specifically in the first instance to challenge:

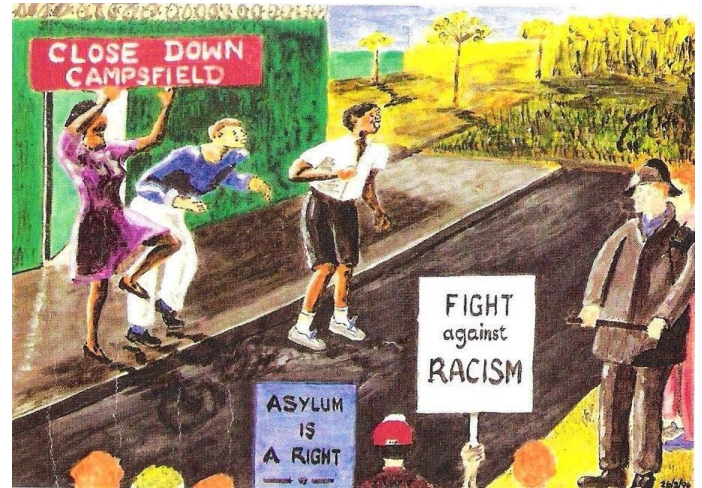
- The practice of locking people up without time limit
- The lack of adequate judicial oversight of who, why, or for how long, people are locked up
- The practice of locking up people the law would describe as vulnerable.

Their catch phrase is 'detention is not the answer – for anyone.' They are currently

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doing research into the impact of detention on vulnerable people (possibly all detainees?), supporting work for an amendment to the current Immigration Bill which would limit the duration of detention, and continuing to press for more fairness and transparency in the immigration legal processes.



Painting of demo, by a detainee

For info including getting your organization to join, see:
detentionforum@wordpress.com

There is a Scottish Detention Forum.

Migreurop

In 2002, human rights organisations gathered at the European Social Forum in Florence decided to act as a network to document and denounce the growing development of immigration detention centres across Europe, starting with a map of detention camps updated regularly.

Thirteen years later, 43 NGOs from 16 countries in Europe, Africa and the Middle East have joined Migreurop, a membership which reflects the reality of 'Fortress Europe': border control, detention, deportation and the externalisation of this

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policy to third countries to contain migrants away from the Europe Union. A map in Migreurop's *Atlas on Migration* shows the intensification of detention in a variety of detention sites: closed reception centres for asylum-seekers, police stations, immigration detention centres, pre-departure accommodation centres. The English translation of the atlas, published by New Internationalist, was launched in London in December 2013.

The same month, Campsfield campaigners attended Migreurop's Paris biennial general meeting on 'Migrant detention in Europe and beyond: What perspectives?' One was elected to Migreurop's administrative council.

<http://www.migreurop.org/?lang=en>

Corporate Watch

Corporate Watch is a small independent not-for-profit research and publishing group which undertakes research on the social and environmental impact of large corporations, particularly multinationals. They have a particularly strong thread on immigration detention:

<http://www.corporatewatch.org.uk/?lid=21&query=detention>

Publication of this Monitor coincides with the launch of their report: *'Collective Expulsion: The case against Britain's mass deportation charter flights'*.

<http://www.corporatewatch.org.uk/>

National Coalition of Anti Deportation Campaigns (soon to be Right To Remain)

'The NCADC supports community campaigns for justice in the immigration and asylum systems. We support people

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fighting for their right to remain, and wider campaigns for migration rights.' Their in-person, blog, Twitter and Facebook activity gives accessible and up to date information and help for campaigners and individuals fighting against deportation. Their excellent *Campaigning Toolkit*:

An aid to understanding the asylum and immigration systems, and campaigning for the right to stay is online and in hard copy.

In 2013 they ran a workshop in Oxford based on the toolkit.

<http://www.ncadc.org.uk/>



22 August 2013 Immigration enforcement vans outside O'Neil's, New Inn Hall St, Oxford. A supporter tweeted: 'outside o'neills! They need to brush up on their history!'

Directory of Oxford groups

Asylum Welcome

Supports refugees, asylum seekers and immigration detainees in Oxford and Oxfordshire. 01865 722082

office@asylum-welcome.org

Bail for Immigration Detainees

BID prepares bail hearings for detainees; makes written applications for Temporary Admission; helps detainees run their own bail hearing. BID, Methodist Church

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Centre, Jeune Street, Oxford, OX4 1BN.
Tel. 01865 200 357. Fax 01865 793 009.
Mobile 07824 877 508 ionel@biduk.org
www.biduk.org

Freedom From Torture

(formerly Medical Foundation). Cares for survivors of torture. Oxford supporters group: halcyon.leonard@ntlworld.com or 01865 452783. (www.torturecare.org.uk)

Medical Justice

Trains local doctors to give independent medical advice to detainees. Arranges for medico legal reports, campaigns for improved health care.
mjoxford@yahoo.co.uk All referrals for medical reports:
med@medicaljustice.org.uk

Open Door

Weekly drop-in 11-4 Thursdays for refugees and asylum seekers, hot meal, games, signposting advice, East Oxford Community Centre. Contact:
opendoor@yahoo.co.uk



NoBorders camp, Calais, June 2006

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Oxford Migrant Solidarity

Supportive group showing solidarity with and visiting people in detention in Oxford. Communicating despite the fences.
Contact: oms@riseup.net

Refugee Resource

Counselling and therapeutic activities, employment advice, mentoring and coaching. Old Music Hall, 106-8 Cowley Road, Oxford OX4 1JE. Tel. 01865 403 280 / 0845 458 0055.
www.refugeeresource.org/
info@refugeeresource.org

Trade unions

Oxford Trades Council and local branches support the campaign. To contact a TU branch, ask the secretary of Oxford & District Trades Union Council
oxfordtuc@aim.com, or tel. 01865 558145.



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Visit a detainee! Contact the Campaign or Oxford Migrant Support or Asylum Welcome (see above)



**Campaign
to Close Campsfield**

Closecampsfield.wordpress.com

closecampsfield@riseup.net

01865 558145 / 01993 703 994

Demonstrate: last Saturday of the month at noon.

Meetings: first Tuesday, 7.30, Oxford Town Hall

Email list: To join, send an email to closecampsfield-subscribe@yahoo.com

CAMPSFIELD MONITOR



Campsfield bike riders ready for the off, Martyrs Memorial, St Giles, Oxford, 11am, last Saturday of the month



Former detainees Fungi Maikokera and Patricia Mukandara, Campsfield, Nov 2007



28 TWENTY YEARS TOO LONG ! CLOSE CAMPSFIELD AND ALL DETENTION CENTRES !

WINTER 2013/14

CAMPSFIELD MONITOR

29 TWENTY YEARS TOO LONG ! CLOSE CAMPSFIELD AND ALL DETENTION CENTRES !